

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15
NSC-05 L-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 AF-08 ARA-06
EA-07 NEA-10 /097 W
-----242355Z 090244 /45

O R 242218Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8768
INFO USUN NEW YORK 169

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 497

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO
SUBJ: ICAO: NICOSIA FIR

REF: MONTREAL 454

1. RE TELCONS DILLON/HARTLEY (IO) MARCH 22, IN ABSENCE OF ANY RESPONSE FROM US, PRESIDENT/COUNCIL HAD TO MOVE AHEAD.
2. HE HAS SENT BRIEF INFO MEMO ON "CONFIDENTIAL" BASIS TO COUNCIL REPS EXPLAINING PROBLEM AND GIVING BRIEF STATUS REPORT (TEXT BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTEL).
3. HE HAS RECEIVED REPORTS OF THREE OR FOUR "NEAR-MISS" INCIDENTS IN CONTROVERSIAL AIRSPACE NEAR ROUTES INTERSECTION EAST END ERCAN (ALASIA). REPORTS ARE FROM NICOSIA AIRPORT AND FROM NICOSIA AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS, AND INVOLVE LUFTHANSA, AND LOT, AND TWO SAUDIA ARABIAN AIRCRAFT. IN ADDITION AEROFLOT AND BULGARIAN AIRLINES HAVE CONTACTED ICAO/PARIS EXPRESSING CONCERN RE DUPLICATIVE NOTAMS AND REQUESTING ADVICE. (ALL CONTACTS RE THIS MATTER ARE AUTOMATICALLY REFERRED FROM PARIS TO MONTREAL.) IATA IS AWARE OF INCIDENTS BUT HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO CONFIRM DETAILS.

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4. PRESIDENT/COUNCIL HAS RECEIVED FORMAL REPLY FROM FORMIN ANKARA TO HIS CABLE REPORTED REFTEL. ANKARA RESPONSE IS PROFORMA BUT CONCLUDES WITH EXPRESSION OF HOPE FOR EVERYONE'S COOPERATION WITH ICAO.
5. IN TALKS WITH UN/NY PRES/COUNCIL AND SYG'S ASSISTANT HAVE

AGREED NOT REPEAT NOT TO BRING THIS QUESTION BEFORE VIENNA MEETINGS NEXT WEEK, BEING OF OPINION THAT TECHNICAL PROBLEM WOULD COMPLICATE POLITICAL TALKS AND AT SAME TIME TECHNICAL PROBLEM WOULD BECOME POLITICALLY TAINTED.

6. PRES/COUNCIL SEES JOINT OPERATION NICOSIA AIRPORT AS LONG RANGE GOAL WITH LITTLE HOPE OF ARRANGING ANYTHING USEFUL IN NEXT FEW DAYS WITH RESPECT TO CURRENT PROBLEM, AND THEREFORE NOT PURSUING.

7. IN MEETINGS WITH TOP TECHNICAL PEOPLE IN AIR NAV BUR, AN ICAO TECHNICAL PROPOSAL HAS BEEN DECIDED UPON AS FOLLOWS: MAIN SAFETY PROBLEM EXISTS IN EASTERN PORTION ERCAN AIRSPACE AT MAIN ROUTE INTERSECTIONS NORTH/SOUTH (MOSTLY EAST EUROPEAN AND SOVIET AIRCRAFT FROM TURKEY) AND EAST/WEST FLIGHTS TO DAMASCUS, BEIRUT ETC. (ALASIA) PRES/COUNCIL WILL PROPOSE TO DENKTASH THROUGH SAME UN CHANNELS, THAT ADVISORY AIRSPACE BE LIMITED ON EAST TO APPROXIMATELY EAST COAST CYPRUS, AND LEAVING NICOSIA FIR IN CONTROL OF MAJOR ROUTE INTERSECTION AREA. HOPEFULLY THIS WOULD SATISFY POLITICAL OBJECTIVE OF TFSC ASSUMING "RESPONSIBILITY" FOR UNTENDED AIRSPACE BUT WOULD AVOID DUPLICATION OVER CRUCIAL AIR ROUTES AREA. (PRES/COUNCIL HAS NO REASON TO THINK THIS WILL OR WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.) HE WILL OFFER TO MAKE AVAILABLE A TOP LEVEL ICAO EXPERT FROM MONTREAL OR PARIS TO ADVISE INVOLVED PARTIES IN A TECHNICAL MEETING WHICH MAY BE INDICATED FOR WORKING OUT DETAILS.

8. FYI: PRESIDENT STILL HOPES COUNCIL WILL NOT REPEAT NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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BE INVOLVED ON ACTION BASIS FOR REASONS GIVEN IN TELCON: A) COUNCIL REPS WOULD HAVE TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS WHICH WOULD BECOME POLITICALLY ORIENTED; B) ONCE COUNCIL ACTION EXPECTED/INVOLVED, PRES/COUNCIL COULD NO LONGER ACT INDEPENDENTLY (FOR EXAMPLE IF COUNCIL SHOULD FORMALLY REQUEST POSTPONEMENT ANY DECISION FOR 30 DAYS PRES WOULD BE BOUND SIMILARLY); PRESIDENT CONSIDERS HIS ACTIONS NOW TO BE IN SUPPORT OF EXISTING COUNCIL DECISION RE NICOSIA FIR AND THEREFORE FEELS HE HAS CONSIDERABLE LEEWAY TO US "GOOD OFFICE". USREP AGREES WITH ANALYSIS KOTAITE AND REITERATES RECOMMENDATION EXPRESSED IN TELCON THAT SO FAR, ISSUE IS BETTER HANDLED WITHOUT FORMAL ACTION BEFORE COUNCIL.

9. USREP REGRETS THAT REQUEST OF PRES/COUNCIL FOR US ADVICE PRIOR TO HIS ONGOING ACTION WAS NOT RESPONDED TO.
HARPER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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